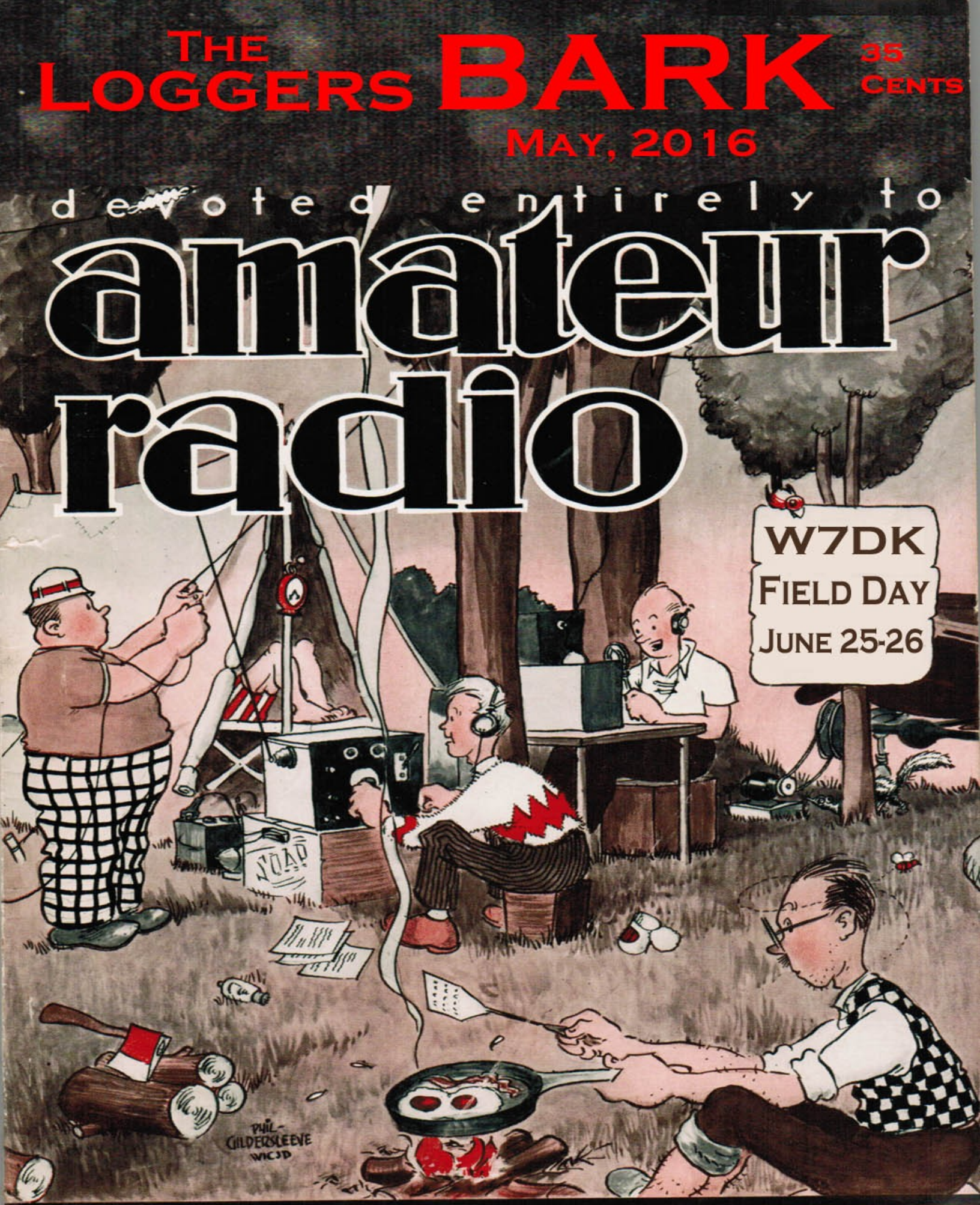
THE LOGGERS BARK
35 CENTS
MAY, 2016

devoted entirely to

amateur radio

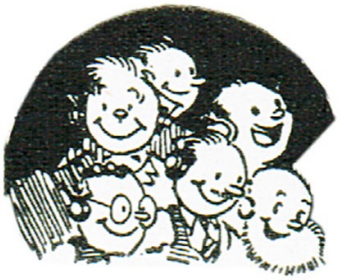


In This Issue... All about RCT Field Day - Don't Miss It

The Logger's B A R K

1916 - Radio Club of Tacoma - 2016

February 2016 Volume 13, Issue 02 © 2016 Radio Club of Tacoma



Let's Get Excited About Field Day 2016



Dateline: May 7, 2016… RCT Clubhouse. Cmdr Bob Purdom, AD7LJ– revealed to this reporter that the Western State Hospital parade grounds is available for RCT to once again operate Field Day from this location.

Dateline: May 9, 2016… via email correspondence- RCT FD coordinator, Randy WB4SPB reports that on ***Weds, May 18, that a Field Day planning meeting*** will be held at the RCT Clubhouse. Topics to be discussed will be:

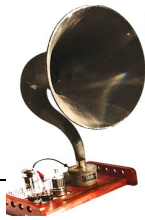
>What stations should we field?

>Who will function as band managers?

>What rigs are available from the Club's inventory?

>What should we use for 80M and 40M antennas (figuring we have the monobanders for 20M stations)?

>Who can plan, build (and, we hope, test) and erect 80M and 40M antennas?



Did You Know?

The First FD was in 1933 W4PAW made 62 QSO– with 28 Sections to win with 1876 Points.

At the 4th Wednesday Activity Nite—May 25 at 7:00 PM… Field Day Logging and operator training is planned. Also more planning will most likely happen.

Volunteers of all skill levels are needed. If you are new to ham radio– participating in Field Day is a great way gain some hands-on knowledge and have a fun time. If you are an 'old salt'- come on down and share what you know. Please attend the above mentioned activities to see what it is all about.

Links for more Field Day Info:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_Day_(amateur_radio)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0V7g8QZXKM

Upcoming Notable Club Activities



5/18, Weds 7:00 PM Clubhouse FD Planning
5/25, Weds, 7:00 PM 4 Weds Activity Nite– FD
See w7dk.org for more details….
6/10+11-Sat+Sun; Technician Class at Clubhouse
6/14, Tues, 7:00 PM; VE Testing at Clubhouse
6/15, Weds, 7:30 PM; Club Meeting at Library



RCT's FD 'Public Info Table'- the first place that visitors encountered when visiting DK's FD site. Seated L-R: Connie Clark, John Clark AC7WW, Bob N7NCP and Gretta KF7KSW. Our club was re-warded with 100 extra points for the PI table.

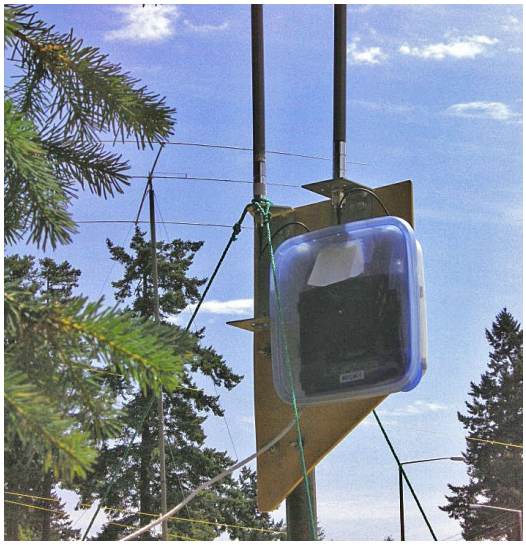


Here's the 10M, 6M + VHF station provided by Bill AD7QI. Bill set-up was 100 percent wind or solar powered– complete with a large battery bank.

2015 RCT Field Day Photo Highlights

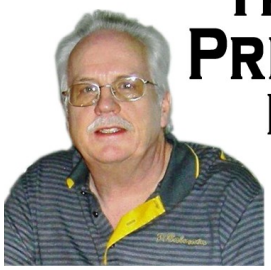
All Images by Randy WB4SPB

The Gizmo Below is one of the Wireless Mesh Network transceiver-routers that connected all stations (minus 1) logging computers together. Hopefully this net-work will be back for 2016s FD effort. Hats off to Randy WB4SPB for implement-ing this neat-O feature.





Mastermind Chuck AC7QN created a Bicycle Powered QRP station for 'DK to earn 100 points for making 5 'Alternate Powered' QSOs. On the handle bar is the Voltage Regulator and FT-817 QRP radio on 40 Meters. Rich KR7W pedals like heck and operates the little hand held Straight Key. Chuck tunes them in and Rich Pounces with sloppy Morse. Chuck scribes QSO info then enters it in the PC log. There's no battery attached– all pedal power is from an old treadmill mo-tor (reversed to generate). When the Key is down– pedaling becomes 100 times more difficult. 5 QSOs were easily made.



The RCT President's Report

by
Gary McAdams
WG7X

Hello campers!

One fine day, I was scanning through QRZ.com forums and this thread caught my eye: http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/repeater-group-lawsuit.522682/ [LINK]

It is all about one of these never ending ham radio feuds over owning and operating an Amateur Radio repeater. Some one wants to sue another ham for alleged use/ misuse of their "Private Radio Network". Now being a closet Socialist and all that, I naturally needed to put my oar in the water. Here is my first response to the group:

"Private radio networks", huh? Is that in the province of good Amateur radio practices? Seems to me that anyone desiring a private radio network should move off of ham radio to commercial spectrum.

Now just based on the biased web site report, I would also say the fellow allegedly selling radio equipment on the "Private Radio Network" was probably out of line, but so is the "PRN" for even existing."

Two wrongs most definitely do not make a right. Since I have no dog in this fight, I will leave it at that. Just my opinion, which you did ask for by posting this in a public forum.

Then I added this in response to the general thrust of the argument/ thread:

"Well darn it, just wanted to add this: Private ownership of equipment is one thing; (and it's completely different at least to me), than a "private organization" taking up a spot on a publicly owned resource like a ham band. Putting up your repeater on a given frequency does not give you title to the frequencies you use, they are still available for use by Joe ham."

Yes the FCC has given priority to repeaters coordinated through local coordination societies as they exist in most areas. This is common knowledge and most of us agree to operate within the guidance of the coordinators and FCC regulations. We understand the need and reasons for having repeaters coordinated. No problem, but a repeater can be removed from service and the frequency pair re-allocated, right? Repeaters are providing a public service, that is probably the main reason that the FCC lets us do the coordination ourselves.

If a repeater is for "private use only" in my opinion, it should be taken down and the pair re-allocated to someone who is willing to provide the service to the ham community at large. Having your own repeater pair for just your buddies or to boost your sagging ego is not a valid reason to take up the public airwaves.

To repeater owners: Yes, it's your equipment, but you are the one who decided to put it on the air in the first place. Pathetic bleating about guys just using my stuff for their own purposes is just counter intuitive. If you did not want people to use your repeater, keep it in the basement, powered down, and not connected to an antenna. That way all the bad guys will never stain its lily white essence.

Sound stupid? Yeah, but that's the essence of it isn't it? Some folks want build an empire on other folks backs.

End of rant…

The Radio Club of Tacoma has quite a few repeaters that are open to all, as they should be. They will remain that way as long as the RCT is a 501-3c organization. No one in their right mind should ever expect anything less from us!

I suppose that I should not even join into an internet discussion, but the attitudes displayed there just kind of make me sad. The idea of private ownership of a public resource like our hard-won frequencies makes me mad. So, in the interest of boring the rest of you, I decided that a good rant needs publicity!

73 All

Gary WG7X

GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST



BY RICH KR7W - BARK EDITOR

The theme of this month's Bark is to Chat up the upcoming Field Day that your radio club will participate in.

The Cover Page of this issue is from QST– June, 1941.

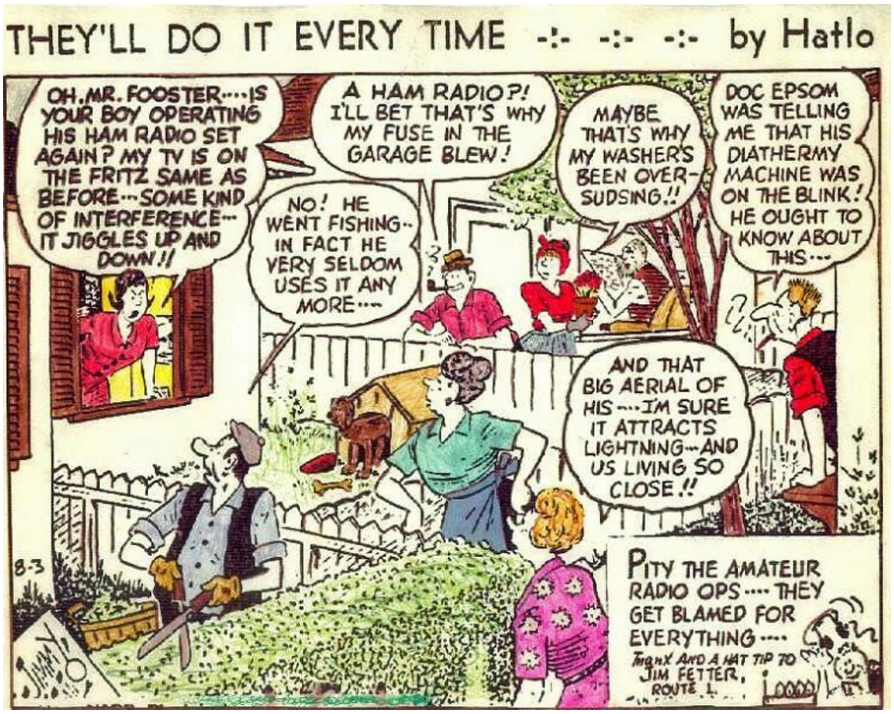
It's a Bummer Dude, no one contributed a ham shack to show case. Same-O for Hints N Kinks and The New Thing.

I had aspirations of reviewing my sorta new Wouxun Handy Talkie, the Yaesu FTD-100 2M/UHF Mobile Radio, and talk about Morse Code Training… but time ran out.

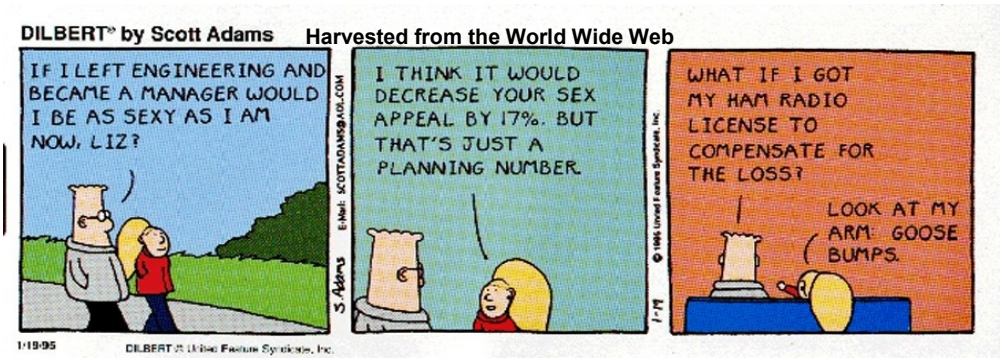
Email me [LINK] your hamshack info, items that you'd like to see in the Bark, For Sale or Trade items, random photos, or anything else that might be Bark worthy. **Otherwise the Bark keeps getting smaller.**

THIS MONTHS CONTENTS

Field Day– upcoming info	Page 02
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I remember this cartoon in the Sunday Funnies when I was a young ham in the mid '60s. Image harvested from the World Wide Web. What do hams get blamed for now-a-days?



In the '90s, when I worked in 'Cube World'… I was a big fan of Dilbert– I had all of the Cartoon Books… and if I remember right; Dilbert was into ham radio when he was a kid.



AROUND THE CLUBHOUSE

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE INFO



Please do this! Make QSOs with Club Members to earn your Logger's Certificate! Simply document the members you worked (preferably with a date, band and mode, for the database) and submit your entry to: **loggers@W7DK.org** [LINK]

Certificates will be handed out at the General Meeting every month. You may also submit your entry at the clubhouse any time it's open. A special mail cubbyhole has been dedicated for the Logger's Certificate near the front door. Completed certificates for those who cannot attend the general meeting will be left in the same cubbyhole. The club will also produce reissues for anyone who believes they received a certificate in the past. Just provide your callsign so that the database can be searched. Eventually, all of the old records will be scanned and recorded, with a link at the club website so that call signs can be searched.



We look forward to seeing the Logger's Certificate tradition revived and hope that it again becomes the popular program that it was for over fifty years.

Big Thanks! To Dave W7UUU for administering the Loggers Certificate Program.



The Club's 147.380 Crawford Mtn Repeater is back on the air. Chuck AC7QN reported that he thought the audio failure was caused by loose connections in a plug-in circuit card in the RX audio path. Exercise the connections– and Viola! It's fixed.

The Antenna on the Crawford Repeater is no longer a High Gain Yagi that pointed at Tacoma– It's has been replaced with a 3 dB Gain Omni-Directional Monopole. It is predicted that the dot 380 repeater will have good coverage in the I-5 area south of Olympia. If you are down there– give a shout to



Radio Club of Tacoma Club Meeting Traffic…

Note that the Club Board Meeting on April 6 did not have a Quorum– so nothing official happened and therefore, no meeting minutes were written.

General Membership Meeting Notes

April 13, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Gary WG7X at the Pierce County Library Administration Building.

Officers and Directors Present: President Gary McAdams WG7X, Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Pledge of Allegiance led by Gary WG7X

Welcome -

Guest Jeremy introduced himself. Self-Introductions were completed and there were 34 names on the sign in sheet.

Health and Welfare:

Silent Keys Willie Bourlet, W7NXK recently passed away unexpectedly. He was 75. Willie was a RCT Lifetime member. Services will be Sunday, 1pm at Mountain View Funeral Home 4100 Steilacoom Blvd.

Secretary's Report Usual stuff, bank statements, subscriptions, QSL cards

Treasurer's Report The Field Day Pig was passed around.

Club Award Presentations

Loggers Certificates were presented by Dave W7UUU to the following recipients: Ralph W7MPF, Jim W7ZND and Dave W7TUK,. Applicants were reminded that they can mail in applications to Dave at loggers@w7dk.org

Committee / Activity Reports

VE Report - John AC7WW reported that The VE Team of the Radio Club of Tacoma hosted an exam session for fourteen candidates Tuesday April 14 th 2016. Twenty three exams were graded by eight VE's with thirteen

being passed. Six candidates passed element two to become Technician Class. One candidate passed element two and three to enter the amateur service as General Class. Four candidates upgraded to Extra Class. One candidate came in with an expired Advanced license (1980) passed element two and with credit for the expired license walked out as an Extra. Two candidates failed to obtain an initial license.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort: Jan, K7HTU John, AD7AW; Rich, KK7VH; Mike, W7XH; Stephen, AD7AB; Mike, AF7VW; Charles, AE7BM

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

Training – Next Tech Class June 11/12 VE Session April 12

Property Management Reorganizing lockup since we now have additional shelf space.

4 th Weds Activity Night Training activity April 27 th will be additional instruction and practice of antenna modelling. The HF stations will be open and available for those who wish to get on the air.

Roger Terwilliger WA7ANJ RCT Life Member and past President passed away Monday.

Program Since it appeared most of the members present had already seen Dave's presentation on up-grading to General Class License; he instead provided highlights of the now-destroyed massive antenna arrays at Radio Arkala OH8X in Finland. The General Class Upgrade Stimulus will be rescheduled for a later date.

Show and Tell Dave W7UUU showed off his ARRL Triple-Play Award.

Tuning and Traffic P.J. N7PXY discussed the Genesis SDR Kit.

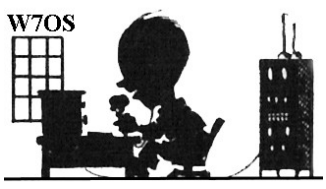
Door Prize Was won by Paul KG7FTN

Raffle The prize, a Bao Feng dual-band HT was won by P.J. N7PXY

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Special Thanks to Randy WB4SPB for taking notes during the absence of the Secretary.



Check it out! Val K7VAP set up her telescope at the 2015 Field Day 15/80 Meter station. It drew quite a crowd. What does she see? Thanks Randy– WB4SPB for the photo.



Wouldn't it be great if the ARRL gave BONUS POINTS for making FD QSOs with Vintage Ham Radio Equipment? 5 QSOs with all Vacuum Tube Rigs gains 100 points. Great Fun!



DID YOU KNOW?

ARRL's 1936 Field Day was so popular that a second Field Day was held August 22nd-23rd of that year. The highest qso total for June was 143 and the highest QSo total for August was 136.



This is the official ARRL 2016 Logo. If you'd like to sport some ARRL Logo-Wear be sure to visit their website for FD supplies…

Click: https://www.arrl.org/shop/Field-Day-Supplies/ [LINK]

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

1916 - 2016

100 YEARS OF SERVICE

THE LOGGER'S BARK is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*… and is published by RCT, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.

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MEMBERSHIP INFO: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $35 per calendar year. $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma:	147.280 + PL=103.5	
Crawford Mountain	147.380 + PL=103.5	(E of Olympia @ 1800 ft ASL)
Central Tacoma:	440.625 + PL=103.5	
North Tacoma:	145.21 – PL=141.3	

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.